

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 18766 311138Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 OMB-01 SIL-01 LAB-06

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R 311050Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8577

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, VS

SUBJECT: BUU'S REMARKS TO CVT CONVENTION IN SAIGON

1. TRAN QUOC BUU, IN AN ADDRESS TO THE TRIENNIAL CVT CONVENTION DELEGATES, FOREIGN FRATERNAL DELEGATES AND PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU, ON OCTOBER 29 CHALLENGED THE COMMUNISTS TO ABANDON THEIR UNDERCOVER ACTIVITIES AND COME OUT IN THE OPEN AND FIGHT FOR THE LOYALTY OF THE WORKERS AND FARMERS OF SOUTH VIETNAM. BUU, FURTHER CALLED UPON THE GVN "IN SPIRIT OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT TO PERMIT THE OTHER SIDE TO ENGAGE IN OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SPIRIT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND CONSTRUCTION IN ALL FIELDS, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELD OF TRADE UNIONS, TO CLEARLY ACCEPT ITS DUTIES IN GUIDING THE PEOPLE, AND COMPETE IN THE NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION TOGETHER WITH THE EXISTING NATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS."

2. BUU ALSO APPEALED TO THE LEADERS OF NORTH VIETNAM, "IN THE SPIRIT OF CONCORD AND CONDILIATION, TO LIBERATE THE WORKING CLASS AND THE PROPLE OF THE NORTH IN ORDER TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO REGIONS AS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS UNIFICATION OF THE TERRITORY INTO ONE POWERFUL, PEACEFUL AND WEALTHY NATION."

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 18766 311138Z

EM PRESIDENT THIEU IN HIS ADDRESS OUTLINED A LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

THE GVN HAS MADE IN THE LABOR FIELD. HE CITED SUCH THINGS AS A NATIONAL MANPOWER COMMISSION, INCREASED EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES, TRAINING CLASSES FOR WORKERS REPRESENTATIVES AND A HIRING HALL AT NEW PORT TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM INTERMEDIARY AGENTS.

4. AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE THE NEXT DAY, THE GVN SPOKESMAN, BUI BAO TRUC, SAID THAT TRAN QUOC BUU'S SUGGESTION THAT THE GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZE THE COMMUNISTS TO OPERATE IN THE TRADE UNION CIRCLE WAS NOT COUNTER TO GVN POLICY. TRUC WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE COMMUNISTS WOULD BE PERMITTED TO ENGAGE IN OPEN TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES WERE WITHDRAWAL OF 300,000 NVA TROOPS, CEASSATION OF INFILTRATION, AND END OF HANOI'S AGGRESSION AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAM.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THIEU KNEW IN ADVANCE THE LINE BUU WAS TO TAKE IN HIS ADDRESS. TAKEN TOGETHER WITH TRUC'S CAREFULLY FORMULATED QUALIFICATIONS, BUU'S APPEAL TO THE COMMUNISTS IS IN KEPTIN WITH THE LONGSTANDING GVN POSITION, FIRST FORMULATED BY THIEU IN 1969, THAT THE COMMUNISTS WOULD BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SOUTH VIETNAM'S POLITICAL LIFE PROVIDED THEY REALLY GAVE UP THEIR USE OF VIOLENCE AND THEIR ATTEMPT TO CONQUER SOUTH VIETNAM BY MILITARY FORCE. BUU'S CHALLENGE IS ALSO IN KEEPING WITH THE GVN POSITION AT LA CELLE ST. CLOUD, WHERE THE "PRG" REACTION SHOWS CLEARLY THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE NOT PREPARED TO JOIN IN AN OPEN POLITICAL CONTEST WITH THE GVN. MARTIN

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